

EDUCATION (IRELAND)

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION

IN

IRELAND,

FOR THE YEAR 1880-1881.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.



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TO HIS EXCELLENCY FRANCIS THOMAS DE GREY, EARL COWPER, K.G.

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND, &c., &c.

WE, the Commissioners of Education in Ireland, constituted by Acts of Parliament passed in the reigns of their late Majesties King George the Third and King George the Fourth, respectfully submit to Your Excellency the following General Report of our proceedings during the year 1880-81 :—

The information with which the Commissioners have in their Report to furnish Your Excellency may be divided into two branches—

(1.) School, and (2.) Estate management.

The schools in connexion with this Board are—1. Royal schools ; 2. Diocesan schools ; 3. Endowed Grammar schools vested in the Commissioners ; 4. Endowed Grammar schools not so vested ; 5. Tenantry schools ; 6. Primary or English schools vested in the Commissioners ; and 7. Primary schools not vested in the Commissioners.

Before entering into the details of the management of individual schools, we beg Your Excellency's attention to the recommendations contained in our previous Reports, and in particular in the Report for the year 1879-80, the object of which was the extension and enlargement of the powers and the improving of the constitution of the Board which consists entirely of unpaid Commissioners, all of them men having other avocations of great public importance, who cannot be expected to be present at every Board meeting, or to have an intimate knowledge of the details of management.

SCHOOL MANAGEMENT.

During the past twelve months, the attendance at our higher schools has been, considering the circumstances of the country, as good as could be expected.

The total returns show 1,467 pupils in attendance, as against 1,475 in the year 1879-80.

During the past year we have, under the advice of our architect, expended considerable sums in substantial repairs of the various school premises ; at the same time our net income which is derived from land has been considerably curtailed. It therefore became necessary for us to overdraw our account at the bank largely, and for the purpose of securing that over-draft, to transfer £2,000 of our capital to the credit of the Bank of Ireland.

As a consequence, reforms and improvements in school management which we contemplated have been postponed. Most important amongst these are (1) the improvement in the position of the assistant masters ; (2) the enlarging and improving of school play-grounds so as to encourage healthful recreation so necessary to a complete education ; (3) the providing instruction in science and modern languages, hitherto much neglected in Irish schools.

We notice with satisfaction that an increase has been made in the vote for this department. At the same time we beg to record our opinion that the vote (£725) is still inadequate for the purpose of enabling the Commissioners to exercise an adequate control over the endowed schools. Application was made to the Treasury for an increase in the salary of Mr. Fleming, clerk and accountant to the Commissioners, in order that the school estates might be relieved from a charge of £170 not contemplated by the Act of Parliament constituting this Board. The Treasury declined to make any charge pending the report of the Endowed Schools Commissioners.

ROYAL SCHOOLS.

The alterations made in the rules for Royal Scholarships, and referred to in our Report for last year, have only partially come into force, and yet, already the number of competitors has increased. The examinations conducted by Mr. Barlow, F.R.C.S., and Mr. Mahaffy, F.R.C.S., have enabled us to ascertain that the teaching in these schools is on the whole satisfactory.

If we had power we should make a common fund for Royal School Exhibitions as well as for Royal Scholarships, awarding them to the several candidates from all the schools indifferently. The competition thus engendered would be a valuable incentive to study, and the privilege of competing for these prizes would be a great boon to the pupils of Raphoe school, to which, owing to the poverty of the endowment, no exhibitions are attached.

The increase in the number of pupils at one of the Royal Schools being always simultaneous with a falling off in the attendance at others, is proof of the fact that there is not a sufficient supply of pupils to fill the three northern Royal Schools of Armagh, Dungannon, and Enniskillen, which lie comparatively close together. It would be for the interests of education to close one of these schools, and employ the funds in providing pensions for masters—the most urgent of all school reforms.

When we remember that no pensions are provided for the masters, it is not to be wondered at that the history of each of our schools has been an alternation of prosperity and decline corresponding with the age of the head master. If provision were made for moderate pensions, and if, in addition, the appointment of masters were vested in the Board, we should be able to establish a system of promotion which would attract to the teaching profession the class of men we should desire to see embracing it.

Armagh.—The attendance at this school is larger this year than it has ever been before. Every desk is occupied; and were it not for the boarding houses set up by the assistant masters at their own risk, it would be impossible to accommodate the 170 boys who attend. There is crying need for an improvement in the school playground, which, besides being too small for the school, is unfitted for cricket and football. Plans have been obtained for levelling a sufficient area, and the estimated cost is £250. Unfortunately there are at present no funds at our disposal for this purpose. The Inspector appointed by the Endowed Schools Commissioners suggests the propriety of selling the school premises and moving the school into the country. To this plan there are two fatal objections, one is that even if we had the power we do not possess the necessary funds; the other is that there are at present a very large number of day boys in the school, who if the school were moved would cease to attend.

Banagher.—The attendance though still small continues to increase slightly. The endowment (£160 net) is wholly inadequate to support a good staff for a grammar school. The school premises are only held by us for a lease of seven years. If we were possessed of powers to remove schools to other sites, and to utilize the Royal School funds as a common fund, we should close this school on the expiration of the present lease, and remove it to a locality where a greater demand for higher education exists. The Treasury have consented to reduce the amount of the annual instalment payable on account of a school loan, but we have no funds at our disposal to make even these small payments (£22 12s.), and we have requested the Treasury to write off the entire debt, £235 18s. 11d.

Cavan.—The returns of the master show about the usual number of pupils, 26. There was no competition for the Exhibitions founded last year at this school. We have this year appointed a classical assistant master at a salary of £200, which we find to be the lowest salary which will attract a duly qualified classical master.

Dungannon.—There is no alteration in the number of pupils at this school. The master has a high reputation for scholarship, which the recent success of his pupils at Trinity College maintains. And yet his school only attracts 41 pupils, a small number to be supported by an endowment of £1,770 (gross) per annum. The fact is, as before stated, that the supply of grammar schools in this part of Ireland exceeds the demand, and the present popularity of Armagh withdraws pupils from Dungannon. In former times the prosperity of Dungannon had a like effect upon Armagh.

Ennistillen.—Of late years there has been a falling off in the number of pupils at this school. The head master has been for a long time in the service of the Commissioners, and well deserves an ample pension. For many years under his management the school was the most successful of our Royal schools, but owing to two unfortunate accidents, involving loss of life, and for which no blame can be attached to the head master, the attendance fell to its present level.

We have during the past year expended a considerable sum in placing the buildings in a thorough state of repair.

Raphoe.—The success of this school at the Trinity College examinations is the more remarkable when we consider (1) the fact that the pupils attending it are not of the class who usually proceed to a university (2) when we take into account the poverty of the endowment. It is a proof of what may be done by indomitable perseverance.

We beg to refer your Excellency to the following extract from our Report of 1879-80, pp. 5-6.

"We were anxious to grant to this school the privilege of competing for Royal scholarships in Trinity College, Dublin, but we were advised by counsel that we had no power to do so. There is much need here for funds to provide salaries for assistant masters, to supply school furniture and requisites, to found school exhibitions, and to enlarge the playground. But as in the case of Banagher above referred to, in consequence of our not being able to make use of the school estates as a common fund, we are precluded from assisting the master, who has well earned our help, except by annual grants from any chance surplus which may remain over from the funds of other schools."

Carysfort (primary).—The buildings at this school have been thoroughly repaired. The attendance is, we regret to say, small, but so is the endowment.

DIOCESAN SCHOOLS.

Since the date of our last report, a local committee has been formed at Monaghan, and we have given them a lease of the Diocesan school premises, in which they have established an intermediate school. As to the merits of the school it is too early to form an opinion.

The Limerick Diocesan school-house is still occupied as a girl's school, supported by voluntary contributions. With regard to these schools we beg to refer your Excellency to the following extract from our Report of 1879-80:—

"By the Irish Church Act, the income payable by ecclesiastical persons to maintain these schools was to cease after the lives of existing masters; but arrangements were empowered to be made with the Representative Church Body for commutation. Accordingly the Diocesan schools at Cork, Cloyne, Waterford, Monaghan, Limerick, Ferns, and Ross, and the schools for the united dioceses of Leighlin and Ossory, and of Down and Dromore have ceased to exist. Two schools, one at Ballymena and one at Sligo, still continue as Diocesan schools. There is a master at Rádam, in receipt of a small annuity from the Church Temporalities Commissioners, but ill health prevents him from discharging his duties. At Downpatrick, Waterford, and Tuam, schools are maintained as private enterprises. This Board has no funds applicable to maintain Diocesan schools; and there is a want of power to make title in cases where it is proposed to dispose of the sites of schools which have been closed."

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONERS.

It is a misfortune for these schools that at the time when their funds were vested in us we were not given complete control over them. The present arrangement by which the Commissioners are burdened with the estate management, while the appointment and removal of masters and assistants is vested in hereditary or official trustees, is utterly unsatisfactory, and it is not a matter for surprise that these schools do not flourish.

During the past year we have done all in our power to rectify these evils by bringing before the notice of trustees the abuses existing in the schools under their management, but as yet with small effect. Without the power of appointing inspectors, without the power of appointing or of removing masters, except for actual misconduct, it is impossible that we should ever exercise any wholesome control over these establishments.

Ballyroan.—The attendance at this school has fallen to 8. This is not to be wondered at when it is remembered that the one assistant master is over eighty years of age. We have called the attention of the trustees to the fact, but they have as yet taken no steps towards pensioning him or appointing a successor. The school fabric has been put into a thorough state of repair. The situation of the school is bad. It lies in a remote village, and, even with a good staff of masters, would never attract more than 20 pupils.

Navan.—The attendance at this school has somewhat increased during the incumbency of the masters appointed last year, but there does not appear to be any prospect of the school ever attaining large dimensions.

In our last report we called attention to the recommendation of the Endowed Schools Commissioners that the endowments of Ballyroan and Navan, granted by the same founder, should be consolidated, and a school established at Maryborough, the nearest large town to the charity estate. The endowment is amply large to found one flourishing school.

Clontarf.—The attendance at this school continues to improve slowly but steadily. We regret that its funds are not ample enough to enable us to afford salaries to assistant masters.

The Treasury have consented to the postponement for twelve months of the annual instalment of £100 due on foot of a building loan. We have been enabled to put the school buildings into a proper state of repair; but the school is still greatly in need of bathroom accommodation and a good water supply. Both of these improvements must be deferred indefinitely, as it does not appear that we shall ever have sufficient funds for the purpose.

Midleton.—Owing to the prevailing scarcity of money among the middle and upper classes in the south west of Ireland, the attendance has considerably diminished during the past year. But we do not expect that the falling off will be permanent. The situation of the school, the great demand for education in Cork, and the ability of the head master lead us to hope for better things in the future. The present endowment (£300) is barely sufficient to keep the school buildings in tenable repair, to provide Exhibitions in Trinity College, Dublin, which under the trusts of the foundation we are bound to support, and to pay the head master a salary of £100.

In our last Report we used these words :—

"When we are endowed with powers similar to those enjoyed by the Endowed School Commissioners of England, we should probably amalgamate the funds of two or three endowments in this neighbourhood, which have almost ceased to operate, and establish Midleton school on an educational footing which would enable it to satisfy the wants of Cork."

GRAMMAR SCHOOLS NOT VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONERS.

1. The school at New Ross has re-opened with an attendance of 19.

Without power to appoint or pay Inspectors it is impossible for us to exercise control over these schools. Their funds are not in our hands, their masters not appointed or removable by us, neither are they under our surveillance. All we are able to gather for your Excellency's information will be found in a table annexed, which is the result of returns sent out from this office, and answered by the courtesy of the masters.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONERS.

The schools at Tullyvin and Benbawn continue to progress satisfactorily. We should be glad, if we had the funds, to erect a good school-house at Benbawn.

We suggested to the trustees the propriety of placing the school in connexion with the National Board, as a non-vested school, in order to procure the requisite funds; but they felt constrained by the trusts of the endowment to refuse to consider the proposal.

At Eyrecourt we made every effort in our power to utilize the endowment, which consists of the interest on a sum of £440, and a good house, for which the rent of £4 12s. is paid. It was reported to us by Mr. McMillan, National School Inspector, that the only means of utilizing this insignificant fund for the purposes of education was to amalgamate the school with the Eyrecourt National school which occupies a miserable house close by. We were prepared to adopt this suggestion; but the manager of the National School having refused to accept the only terms which by the trusts of the endowment we were justified in offering, the school still remains closed.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS NOT VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONERS.

The remarks we have made as to our defective powers with regard to non-vested grammar schools apply with equal force to non-vested primary schools.

ESTATE MANAGEMENT.

Our estates being situate in the North of Ireland, and being rented below the Government valuation, we did not at first anticipate much difficulty in collecting the rents. Nevertheless, the task has been one requiring great firmness and tact. At a time when as a rule the bulk of our rents have been paid, our tenants were petitioning for abatements and holding back their rents. The annexed table marked (F.) shows the abatements and allowances made in 1879-80, to our tenants. We felt that if we had continued to assist our tenants after once tiding them over their difficulties we should have demoralized instead of benefiting them. We therefore determined, on mature consideration, to make no general abatement this year, but on several estates where the agents reported that inferior seed was in use, or that distress existed, we made free grants of good seed. By making the grant of seed conditional on preparing the ground early in the year, we encouraged good husbandry and ensured more abundant crops. We were careful however not to grant seed in two successive years to any of our tenants, lest we should thereby strengthen the fatal habit of looking for help from others. At first our refusal to grant abatements was met by a passive resistance on the part of the tenants, but gradually an improvement developed itself; and we have now collected £6,523 out of £8,018, rent. During the past year, our principal estates were visited by our Secretary, the grant for travelling not sufficing for a survey of the smaller estates. After his visit, a code of rules was drawn up for the guidance of our agents, which will be found appended hereto. We have made every effort to put a stop to the subdivision of holdings. A reference to the numbers of our tenants, the average acreage of their farms, and the rents, a table (E.) of which will be found annexed, furnishes sufficient proof that much needs to be done in the way of consolidating farms before a thriving peasantry occupy our lands. The Primary Schools established for the benefit of the children of our tenants continue to be largely attended, and show a marked improvement since they were placed in connection with the National Board. In concluding our general remarks on estate management we beg to acknowledge the judicious management of our Agents and of our Secretary, who have succeeded so well, on almost all our estates, in spite of every difficulty, in collecting our rents without stirring up a spirit of hostility among our tenants.

Armagh Estate.—Acting on the recommendation of our local agent, who advised us that in spite of the good crops of 1880 our tenants on this estate had not recovered from the effects of previous bad seasons, we made a free grant of seed to those who paid their rents before the first of April, and whose ground was prepared for the seed. The rents have, with few exceptions, been paid in full. We were anxious to carry out the drainage of the river Cusher, thereby relieving from flood sixty acres of bog in our own hands, and a large tract of land in the hands of tenants. We employed an engineer to prepare plans and estimates for the work. The estimate amounted to £252, and the estimated addition to the income of the Commissioners to £68. Unfortunately the preliminary step to carry out these works was the lowering of a weir used by a Mr. Woods, a tenant of Mr. Cope, a neighbouring riparian proprietor, who refuses to lower the weir. It was suggested to form a drainage district, but counsel advised against the proceeding. However, some of the Commissioners' tenants are asserting their rights, and the Commissioners hope to be able to report next year that this most important estate improvement has been carried out.

Ennistillen School Estate.—In spite of the fine season the tenants on the upper townlands on this estate suffered considerably during the past winter.

The rents, however, have, with few exceptions, been paid. A free grant of the best seed was made to assist the tenants who were labouring under difficulties. The works of estate improvement, mentioned in our last Report, have been nearly completed. Our secretary inspected the estate and reported that these works had been well done, and the money expended judiciously and economically.

We hope to derive no inconsiderable benefit from the Lough Erne Drainage Works now in progress, and to which we gave our assent. When completed they will give a valuable out-fall for drainage to the large tract of flat, low-lying lands adjoining the lake.

We have put a stop to the practice which existed on this estate of destroying the soil for the purpose of making brick. The tenants are required to obtain a ticket from the agent, for which 1d. is charged; but the ticket will not be given until hollows have been filled up, an undertaking given that the land shall afterwards be left in a state fit for agricultural purposes, and that the bricks shall not be manufactured for sale.

In our last Report we mentioned that some 180 Irish acres of cut-away bog had been encroached upon by tenants. We have served notices upon them that they will be called upon to pay rent for these holdings; but we do not intend to enforce payment for the year 1880.

The new survey of the estate alluded to in our last Report as much needed has not been made, as we do not consider the present a fit time for the undertaking.

We were advised by our agent, two years ago, that there was insufficient school accommodation for the children on a part of the school estate. We offered at the time to contribute towards building and supporting a school large enough for the requirements of the neighbourhood; but the proposition met with such opposition that we resolved to allow matters to remain as they are for the present.

Green Royal School Estate.—The rents on this estate have been, on the whole, well paid; but our agent reporting that there was still some distress in the district, and that the tenants were in need of a little help to tide them fully over the reverses of the past bad seasons, we made a free grant of seed to the tenants.

The works at the Green Lake are progressing; the first section as far as the Green Lake being complete. The second section, which includes the clearing of the Drumcraw stream, will be undertaken this year. The drainage of the Beaghy Lake was abandoned as soon as it was ascertained that the benefit to be derived would not be in proportion to the cost of the undertaking.

The arrear which has been brought forward since the famine year has been continued in our books, as we did not consider the past year a fitting time for the re-arrangement of this estate.

Dunagannon School Estate.—The tenants on this estate have not paid their rents well. Out of a total rental of £1,770 we have up to the present time only received £1,100.

Mr. Murphy, appointed by the Endowed Schools Commission to report on our estates, gives it as his opinion that the land is let low, and as a *prima facie* proof of this fact he notes that it is let on the average slightly under the Poor Law valuation.

He also states that last year advanced good seed to our tenants, who enjoyed excellent crops, and we did not therefore feel that it would be expedient this year to make a free grant of seed, more particularly as the advance of last year had not been repaid. The tenants petitioned us for an abatement, but under all the circumstances we refused their request.

During the summer months we employed Mr. Neill, *car.*, to prepare plans and estimates for draining a large tract of bog now lying in an unproductive state, and not required for turbary. We should have put the work in hand this year, thereby adding £100 to our own income and greatly benefiting our tenants, but the rents not being paid we had no funds which we could apply to this purpose. The last instalment of the Lough Naugh drainage was paid this year, and the estate thereby relieved from a charge of £127 17s. 10d.

Bophoe School Estate.—Mr. Murphy reports that there is no reason why these tenants should not pay their rent as well as their neighbours, that their rent is very moderate, that houses moderately comfortable, and fuel abundant. "Intrinsically," says Mr. Murphy, "the lands are worth close on double the rents paid for them by the tenants, but occupied as they are in such small holdings the rent can bear but little proportion to the land."

During the past year we inquired carefully into the old arrears, and wrote off £1,420 out of a total of £1,995 as irrecoverable. We have made an offer of a free grant of seed to tenants who pay their rent; yet, although our tenants are reported to be earning large sums of money in the construction of a new line of railway which skirts our estate for three or four miles, our agent reports that out of a rental of £523 he has only collected £385 in two years. We have, therefore, instructed our agent to issue notices that if the rents are not paid before the 1st day of June the law will be enforced. Until our rents are paid we cannot undertake those works of estate improvement recommended by our agent and mentioned in our last report.

Navan and Ballyroan School Estates.—The rents on this estate have been well paid. In consideration of the regularity with which the rents were paid during the past two years by the tenants on this estate, the payment of the sum £134 due from the tenants on this estate for seed advanced in the spring of 1880 was remitted.

Our agent reports that the tenants' holdings have largely benefited by the drainage works carried out last year at considerable expense.

In our last report we mentioned that the tenants of a neighbouring estate have been in the habit of trespassing and cutting turf on the bog lands of this estate. Acting under legal advice, we have cautioned trespassers to refrain from entering our lands. As some of those who have been in the habit of trespassing have already consented to pay for the privilege of using our turf banks, we hope that the matter will be speedily and peaceably settled.

Clonmel School Estate.—The rents on this estate have been paid in full. The payment of £43, due from the tenants for seed advanced in the spring of 1880, has been remitted.

The works of main drainage, for which we have obtained a loan from the Board of Works of £172, are in progress.

Though the rents on this estate have been all recovered this year, we do not look upon the rental as a secure one. The largest tenant is a chronic defaulter, and the two next largest show a strong disinclination to pay the present rent. The amount paid by these three amounts to three-fourths of the entire rental.

Banagher School Estate, Carysfort Royal School Estate, Middleton Estate.—The rents of these estates have been paid in full.

Appended will be found (A) a List of Royal School Scholars; (B) Rules and Regulations for the Royal Scholarships in Trinity College, School Exhibitions, and Prizes; (C) a Table of Attendance at the Schools under the regulation of the Commissioners of Education; (D) a Statement of Accounts for the year ending the 31st December, 1880; (E) a Table showing the Rentals, &c., of the Estates vested in this Board; (F) a Table showing the Allowances made to Tenants on the year's rent due on the 1st November, 1879; and (G) Regulations for the Guidance of the Local Agents of the Commissioners.

(Signed.)	CHARLES LIMERICK.	(L. S.)
	GEORGE A. C. MAY.	(L. S.)
	JOHN H. JELLETT.	(L. S.)
	WILLIAM B. KIRKPATRICK.	(L. S.)
	J. D. FITZGERALD.	(L. S.)
	BELMORE.	(L. S.)
	RICHARD C. DUBLIN.	(L. S.)
	M. G. ARMAGH.	(L. S.)

APPENDIX.

A.—ROYAL SCHOLARS on the ARMAIGH ROYAL SCHOOL FOUNDATION.

F. J. Anderson, . . .	£35 per annum.	C. Potter, . . .	£30 per annum.
T. Orr, . . .	35 "	H. Sandford, . . .	40 "
M. Kennedy, . . .	40 "	M. Fenton, . . .	30 "
A. Rantank, . . .	50 "	J. D. Fitzmaurice, . . .	40 "
J. Stanley, . . .	40 "	R. S. Young, . . .	30 "

ROYAL SCHOLARS on the DUNGANNON ROYAL SCHOOL FOUNDATION.

A. D. O'Sullivan, . . .	£40 per annum.	C. Williamson, . . .	£30 per annum.
C. Porter, . . .	40 "	J. Dickson, . . .	40 "
H. Morell, . . .	30 "	W. Stubbs, . . .	30 "
A. O'Sullivan, . . .	40 "	F. Barlow, . . .	40 "
J. Ringwood, . . .	25 "	H. Justice, . . .	20 "

ROYAL SCHOLARS on the ENNISKILLEN ROYAL SCHOOL FOUNDATION.

H. Houghton, . . .	£40 per annum.	C. Routledge, . . .	£30 per annum.
J. F. Wray, . . .	20 "	J. Sullivan, . . .	30 "

B.—ROYAL SCHOLARSHIPS in T.C.D., and SCHOOL EXHIBITIONS and PRIZES.

REGULATIONS OF "THE COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND, FOR 1881."

"The Commissioners of Education in Ireland" have founded Exhibitions called "Royal Scholarships," for students who shall enter Trinity College from the Royal schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, or Cavan. One scholarship of £40 and one of £30 will, if sufficient merit is shown, be awarded in each year to candidates from Armagh, Dungannon, or Enniskillen; and one of £35 to candidates from Cavan Royal school.

These scholarships can be obtained by such students only as have been three years in all, previously to their entrance into Trinity College, pupils in some one or other of the Royal schools. It is not however, hereby intended to prevent pupils from moving from one of these schools to another; but the scholarships founded for the respective schools of Armagh, Dungannon, Enniskillen, and Cavan, can be obtained only by students who have entered the University from the schools for which such scholarships have been founded.

The Royal scholarships obtained in 1880 or in subsequent years are tenable for four years, subject to certain conditions hereafter mentioned.

The proved and senior fellows appoint examiners in each year, to examine, on the first convenient day after the second entrance, in the month of October, such students as have entered from the said four Royal schools, and shall offer themselves as candidates for these scholarships.

In 1881, the examinations will be in the following subjects:—

I.—GREEK and LATIN CLASSICS (400 marks).

Three Greek authors, for *visd voce* examination.

Three Latin authors, for *visd voce* examination.

Unseen Greek and Latin passages, for translation in writing.

Greek and Latin prose composition.

Ancient History and Geography.

The Greek and Latin books selected for *visd voce*, are as follows:—

Homer, books 1, 2, 3, and 6.

Ætymologies, Horace.

Xenophon, Anabasis, books 1, 2, 3, 4.

Virgil, *Æneid*, books 1, 2, 6, 7.

Horace, Satires; and Epistles, book 1.

Livy, books 3, 4.

II.—THE ROMAN COURSE (150 marks) will consist of

Terence, English text and present.
Student's Manual of English Literature, chaps. vi, vii, viii, xi, xii, xv, xvii, xix., with corresponding portions of Smith's Specimens of English Literature.
Milton, Paradise Lost, book 1; and Shakespeare, Merchant of Venice.
English Composition.
History of England (Student's Home).
Modern Geography (Clyde).

III.—MODERN LANGUAGES (150 marks).

French or German.

IV.—SCIENCE (300 marks).

Arithmetic.
Algebra, to the end of Quadratic Equations.
Euclid with easy deductions.
Plane Trigonometry.

The result of the examination will be determined by the aggregate number of marks obtained by the several candidates; the number affixed to each course denoting the greatest number of marks obtainable in that course.

No scholar shall be admitted as a candidate, who shall not have remained at one of the Royal schools till the showing entrance examination immediately preceding the examination for Royal scholarships at which he may be a candidate.

No other student shall be admitted as a candidate for a Royal scholarship who shall not have remained at one of the Royal schools to which the scholarships are attached till an entrance examination in Trinity College, in the month of October next preceding the examination for Royal scholarships.

In 1881 no student who shall have attained 19 years of age on the 1st day of October can be a candidate for a Royal scholarship.

Each candidate shall produce to the secretary of the Commissioners a certificate signed by the master of the Royal school from which he shall have entered Trinity College, certifying that he is duly qualified according to the above-stated rules; such certificate to be subsequently headed, by the candidate to the

examiners. No student can be a candidate a second time.

The candidates from all the schools shall be examined together, and a return made to the Commissioners of their positive merit; and also an arrangement of the candidates according to their answering, without distinction of schools.

The Commissioners reserve to themselves the power of suspending or diminishing one or more scholarships if sufficient merit has not been shown.

A Royal scholarship becomes forfeited by the holder if it incurring any heavy collegiate censure, such as public admonition, or restriction; failing to proceed regularly with his class without the leave of the Board of Trinity College; or failing to obtain in any year either one honor of the first rank, or two honors of the second rank.

The election itself to one of these scholarships is reckoned as equivalent to one honor of the second rank; a University Modernship—a University Scholarship—the Berkeley Gold Medal—the Vice-Chancellor's (Latin) Gold Medal—the Lloyd Exhibition—the Wray Prize—Success in the First Indian Civil Service (competitive) Examination, or at the Cooper's Hill Engineering College, or Woolwich or Sandhurst Entrance Examinations, as equivalent to a University honor of the first rank, and obtaining a Responciency, or a first class at the Littles, as equivalent to a University honor of the second rank.

The exhibitions become due half-yearly, viz., on the first of May, and on the first of November. Payments will be made in May to such students only as have obtained in the preceding part of that year at least one honor of the second rank. A half-yearly payment held over in May will be made in November, provided an honor has been obtained in the meantime; and payment for the entire year will be made in November to such students as had not qualified for the May half-year's payment, and shall have then fulfilled all the requisites for the entire year.

In cases where very distinguished merit has been shown during their undergraduate course by students holding minor scholarships, and where scholarships for the same school remain suspended, or have been forfeited, the Commissioners will, at the close of each year, receive memorials from such students for an increase of their stipend.

The names of Royal scholars are placed on the college books, immediately after the names of the university scholars, without, however, altering their degree of seniority amongst their class-fellows.

MILITARY SCHOOLS.

* The Commissioners of Education in Ireland will grant annually two prizes, one of £30 and one of £20, to such junior freshmen as shall, subject to the rules prescribed for the Royal schools, have entered Trinity College, Dublin, from Middleton school, and, having been examined along with, and in the same course as the candidates for the Royal scholarships, shall be recommended by the examiners as deserving candidates.

SCHOOL EXHIBITIONS AND PRIZES.

The Commissioners have founded fifteen exhibitions—viz., five of £20, five of £15, and five of £8, in each of the Royal schools of Armagh, Dungannon, and Enniskillen, tenable by boys at school; and ten exhibitions—viz., five of £15, and five of £10, at the Royal school of Cavan.

One exhibition of £20, one of £15, and one of £8, shall be awarded in the year 1881 at Armagh, Dungannon, and Enniskillen, to be competed for by boys under the age of thirteen years on the 1st day of May, whether they have been previously pupils of the school or not. These exhibitions to be tenable for three years.

One exhibition of £15, and one of £10, shall be awarded in 1881 at Cavan Royal School, to be competed for by boys under the age of thirteen years, whether they have been previously pupils of the school or not. These exhibitions to be tenable for two years.

One exhibition of £20, one of £15, and one of £8, shall be awarded in the year 1881, to be competed for by boys between the ages of thirteen and fifteen years on the 1st day of May, who have been at least one year in the Royal schools of Armagh, Dungannon, and Enniskillen. These exhibitions to be tenable for three years.

One exhibition of £15, and one of £10, shall be awarded in the year 1881 at Cavan Royal School, to be competed for by boys between the ages of thirteen and fifteen years on the 1st day of May, who have been at least one year in the school. These exhibitions to be tenable for three years.

No boy can hold two exhibitions at the same time.

The examination for these exhibitions shall be held some time in the month of May, June, or July. No exhibition shall be awarded where there is not absolute merit; and in such cases the amount of the exhibition forfeited shall revert to the estate of the school.

The examination will be in the following subjects:—

- Reading.
- Handwriting.
- Spelling (from Dictation).
- English Grammar.
- English History (Outlines of).
- Geography (Outlines of).
- Arithmetic (to Vulgar and Decimal Fractions and Simple Proportion, inclusive).
- Latin.—Reading. Translation into English, and parsing, of easy passages of Latin; with translation into Latin of simple English sentences. Accidence of Latin Grammar, as contained in Dr. Smith's *Præcepta Latina*, Part I.
- French.—Reading. Writing from dictation. Translation into English, and parsing, of easy passages of French; with translation into French of simple English sentences. Accidence of Grammar.
- Greek.—Accidence of Grammar, to the end of the conjugation of the regular verbs (including contracted forms).

The examination for senior school exhibitions shall be in the courses selected by the Intermediate Education Commissioners for the pass examination for the junior grade in Latin, Greek, French, English and Mathematics.

A school exhibition is forfeited if the head-master does not certify, before the time for payment of each half yearly instalment, that the holder is well conducted, and is making satisfactory progress with his class studies.

Prizes will (if sufficient merit is shown) be given annually, in each of the schools of Armagh, Dungannon, and Enniskillen, for proficiency in English and other subjects a knowledge of which is required in commercial life.

The examination will be in the following subjects:—

- Spelling,
- Handwriting,
- Reading,
- English Grammar,
- Arithmetic,
- Geography and Mapping,
- English History,
- Algebra,
- French,
- Euclid, for the second, third, and fourth grades only.
- English Composition,
- Practical Writing,
- Book-keeping,
- German,

NOTE.—All the courses of examinations for Royal scholarships, and for exhibitions or prizes, are subject to be varied, from time to time, by the Commissioners.

ARNOLD F. GRAYES, Secretary,
28, Clare-street.

January, 1881.

C.—TABLE of ATTENDANCE at SCHOOLS under REGULATION of COMMISSIONERS of EDUCATION in IRELAND.

Name.	Accommoda- tion for Boys.	No. on Roll, 1st February, 1882.	Average attendance.	No. of Boys.	No. of Day Pupils.	Free Schools.
<i>Royal Schools.</i>						
Armagh, ...	88	170	—	78	82	10
Benagh, ...	—	19	10.7	4	14	1
Cavan, ...	50	26	21	14	11	1
Dungannon, ...	100	41	32	10	27	6
Enniskillen, ...	100	24	22	26	26	8
Raphoe, ...	40	23	25	9	24	3
Caryfort, ...	—	29	20	—	29	25
<i>Diocesan Schools.</i>						
Ballymena, ...	13	30	31	5	25	—
Elgin, ...	10	10	20	1	9	1
Kilbarn, ...	closed.	—	—	—	—	—
Limerick, ...	88	27	21	63	29	27
Monaghan, ...	69	16	15.5	—	16	—
<i>Grammar Schools Vested in the Commissioners.</i>						
Clonmel, ...	40	42	34	16	26	11
Midleton, ...	55	61	45	25	20	6
Navan, ...	—	16	12	—	14	—
Ballyroan, ...	—	8	10	—	—	—
<i>Grammar Schools not Vested in the Commissioners.</i>						
Dundalk, ...	—	29	28	6	23	—
Foyle, ...	50	99	20	45	45	—
Kilkenney, ...	60	10	10	3	6	—
Limerick, ...	40	—	—	—	—	—
Rathfriland, ...	16	76	42	14	62	29
Yongford, ...	6	15	9	—	14	—
Curraghmore, ...	—	14	14	—	14	—
New Ross, ...	20	19	17	—	19	4
Charleville, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Twentieth Schools.</i>						
Armagh Estate, ...	—	60	24.6	—	—	—
Thomagh Estate, ...	—	151	64.8	—	—	45
Cappagh Estate, ...	—	63	27.8	—	—	4
Raphoe Estate, ...	—	128	71	—	128	128
<i>Primary Schools Vested in the Commissioners.</i>						
Betham, ...	—	81	25	—	61	—
Tullyvin, ...	—	71	55	—	—	—
Ryegrove, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Primary Schools not Vested in the Commissioners.</i>						
Athlone, ...	—	62	52	—	62	23
Bethamstown, ...	20	14	14	12	2	12
Cloyne, ...	20	14	12.6	9	5	11
Lifford, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kinsale, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

D.—THE COMMISSIONERS OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND

Dr.

BALANCE SHEET.

Made up to

ASSETS.

		Development at 31st December, 1880			
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Government New Three per Cent. Stock:—					
Average Royal School, Railway Land Investment, ...		1,019	16 2		
Corydon Do., General Investment, ...		655	7 2		
Crown Do., General Investment, ...		5,505	18 5		
Dungannon Do., Railway Land Investment, ...	2540	18 9			
Do., Do., General Investment, ...	511	19 4			
Enkiskillen Do., ...		792	18 1		
		4,254	10 9	12,223	10 7
Midleton Private School, ...					
Kearns and Ballyroan Do., Railway Land Investment, ...	903	19 9			
Do., Do., General Investment, ...	53,498	7 3			
		6,402	6 5		
Kearns Do., ...		307	3 9		
Ballyroan Do., ...		716	15 3		
Tullyrin Do., ...		9,059	5 0	17,652	13 3
Leighlin and Omeary Diocesan School, ...					
Monk and Avelagh Do., ...		244	9 4		
Town, Kildale, and Achery, Do., ...		547	1 11		
		690	4 6		
J. J. Beaton's Deposit in New Three per Cent. Stock, ...				1,411	15 9
J. C. Wann's Deposit in Bank of Ireland Stock, ...				1,000	0 0
Joint Government New Three per Cent. —					
Lymington Private School Investment, ...				487	18 1
Government Three per Cent. Consols:—					
Adelphi Private School Investment, ...				440	6 9
Royal Schools, Sewley Debit Balances as per Income and Expenditure Accounts, ...					
Private Schools, Do., ...		1,006	11 4		
Diocesan Schools, Do., ...		6	13 9		
		22	17 2	1,031	2 3
Seed Advances due by Tenants, ...					
In Agent's hands for Clerical Improvements, ...		319	18 3		
Not a claimant not yet paid, ...		161	0 0		
		15	0 0		
Land Improvement—Agricultural Buildings Loan for Clerical, on Account, ...					
Do., Drainage Loan, do., ...		655	0 0	231	16 3
		42	18 0		
Rents in hands of Agents, ...					
Bank of Ireland General Account, ...				707	16 0
Cash in Bank of Ireland, Lymington Account, ...		30	12 11	291	7 0
		29	5 0		
				65	18 8
				36,453	9 11

ROYAL

Dr.

RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE for

	Cash Balance in Credit at 1st January, 1879	RECEIPTS.				Balance in Debit on 31st Dec., 1880	Total	EXPENDITURE.			
								ON REVENUE.			
		Land Rents.	Bag Rents.	Other Receipts, Interest, &c.	Total Receipts.			Salaries to D.D.s, &c.	Agency.	Post and other expenses, Insurance, &c.	Total.
Average Royal School, ...	5 s. d.	2 s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Adelphi, ...	311 7 4	119 4 5	—	23 7 10	545 19 5	480 19 4	5,654 19 0	—	55 13 1	127 4 1	—
Beaufort Royal School, ...	—	170 7 2	15 17 0	16 4 0	305 4 2	30 15 2	302 8 2	55 18 5	16 4 2	10 8 5	—
Corydon, ...	86 12 4	151 1 5	—	26 12 8	361 34 0	—	361 34 0	—	18 15 1	9 15 11	—
Crown, ...	819 18 10	422 8 16	—	151 12 4	1,393 7 4	—	1,393 7 4	—	30 13 8	41 2 0	—
Dungannon, ...	246 6 11	1,180 13 9	100 1 8	22 11 2	1,549 8 11	35 3 8	2,086 10 7	—	317 19 0	185 2 1	—
King's Island, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leighlin and Omeary, ...	1,045 14 0	1,170 12 5	—	128 6 0	2,343 16 7	—	2,343 16 7	—	119 8 8	80 2 11	—
Midleton, ...	—	177 12 4	—	—	177 12 4	275 0 0	—	187 14 4	65 16 8	41 8 8	—
Tullyrin, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total, ...	5,012 18 4	4,262 0 4	312 12 4	476 16 4	4,011 20 0	2,054 10 1	8,260 0 0	214 6 3	437 14 0	428 2 4	—

Dr.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE

	Cash Balance in Credit on 11th Decem- ber, 1873	RECEIPTS.										Balance in Debit on 11th Dec- ember, 1874.	Total.	Balance in Debit on 11th Dec- ember, 1874.	OF		
		Land Rents.	Rog Rents.	Biblicals.	Land Improvement Leasing.	Total Receipts.					Agency.						
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Adrian's Private School.	—	—	—	—	5 10 0	—	4 10 0	—	8 10 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Quaker's	497 10 0	415 10 0	2 10 0	—	—	416 0 0	4 10 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bywater	20 0 0	—	—	—	15 4 0	—	15 4 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Widder	310 10 0	307 0 0	—	—	22 10 0	—	270 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navan and Ballyroan (Re- served).	—	100 10 0	10 10 0	310 10 0	—	—	400 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trinity.	410 10 1	—	—	—	0 0 0	—	0 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ballyroan.	301 10 0	—	—	—	21 7 1	—	21 7 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kilbucka (Trinity).	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tullyn.	50 0 0	—	—	—	375 10 0	—	375 10 0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Between Catholic School- lands.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1,010 10 0	1,000 10 0	10 0 0	444 10 1	410 0 0	3,876 0 0	8 10 0	8,400 0 0	7 0 0	7 0 0	17 0 0	—	—	—	—	—	—

DIOCESAN

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE for

	Cash Balance to Credit, 1st Dec. December, 1873.	Dividends on Government New Three per Cent. Stock.	Balance in Debit on 1st Decem- ber, 1874.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Down and Downes.	—	—	2 9 0	2 9 0
Kilmore, Raphoe, and Clagher.	—	—	0 4 4	0 4 4
Merrigheen Diocesan School-house.	—	—	20 3 10	20 3 10
Leighlin and Ousey.	18 1 0	7 0 0	—	25 1 0
Lisnabry, Killybeg, and Killybeg.	—	10 0 0	—	10 0 0
Moah and Arlough.	40 5 11	16 5 3	—	56 11 4
Tase, Killybeg, and Achery.	—	18 12 1	—	18 12 1
	58 6 11	32 6 11	29 17 5	120 11 0

E—RENTAL.

Estates.	Total Number of Holdings.	Total Acreage.	Total Gross Rents.	Rent received up to last Cate day.	Total Tenant Valuation, Land only.	Total Tenant Valuation, Land and Build- ings.
		A. R. P.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Arragh.	107	1,503 2 11	1,453 3 0	1,427 8 8	1,434 10 0	1,739 15 0
Navan and Ballyroan.	50	1,775 8 14	738 14 11	763 12 5	638 17 0	743 15 0
Bungher.	10	580 0 0	179 7 2	179 7 2	158 10 0	180 15 0
Carysfort.	10	530 0 0	132 1 6	133 10 5	132 10 0	139 10 0
Cavan.	66	913 3 29	563 7 1	461 15 8	575 2 0	715 14 0
Clonmel.	13	930 3 36	458 19 5	458 19 5	403 8 0	421 0 0
Dungannon.	304	3,325 1 5	1,705 0 8	1,100 0 0	1,516 7 0	1,777 1 0
Enniskillen.	344	5,333 3 21	2,187 8 2	1,818 7 7	2,370 15 0	3,601 7 0
Raphoe.	165	1,885 2 27	568 12 9	189 5 7	596 12 0	655 4 0
Mountaine.	—	5,018 1 17	215 0 0	—	—	—
	1,075	23,950 2 23	8,274 14 2	8,023 7 0	7,831 12 0	8,954 1 0

* Meads.

† Bog.

‡ Shouting.

SCHOOLS.

Year ending 31st December, 1880.

C₆[illegible]

SCHOOLS

Year ending 31st December, 1980.

	Cash balance to credit, at the end of 1877.	EXPENDITURE.				Balance to credit at the end of 1878.		Total	
		Income Tax.	Tax to the State.	Miscellaneous.	Total Ex- penditure.				
Down and Drennon, ...	...	\$ 9 0	...	...	...	...	...	\$ 9 0	...
Kilmore, Foshier, and Clapham, ...	...	0 4 4	...	...	...	...	...	0 4 4	...
Messiah Episcopal School-house, ...	...	14 11 10	...	5 12 0	5 12 0	...	...	20 5 10	...
Laughlin and Quarry, ...	...	0 3 4	...	...	0 3 4	55 4 4	...	55 7 8	...
Lamarck, Kilbuck, and Kilbuck, ...	...	0 0 0	...	7 3 3	7 3 3	0 34 0	...	10 0 0	...
Merritt and Arday, ...	...	0 7 7	...	...	0 7 7	56 0 0	...	56 7 7	...
Town, Kilbuck, and Arberry, ...	...	0 1 3	15 3 1	...	15 2 2	5 5 3	...	19 12 1	...
		17 5 11	0 13 6	15 1 1	32 35 2	20 3 4	47 14 1	155 11 0	

We have examined the foregoing Balance Sheet, and the three accounts of Income and Expenditure; have compared same with the Books of the Trust, and with the Vouchers, and have found same correct.

30th May, 1831.

(Signed) CRAIG GARDNER & CO, Auditors.

F.—TABLE showing the ALLOWANCES made to TENANTS on the Year's Rent due 1st November, 1879.

Towns.	Rent Abolished.			Allowance.			Rented Areas.			Estate Improvements.			Free Rent and Cents.			Rent Allowance to be repaid.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Armagh	139	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	0	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Banagher	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	9	0	17	15	10	17	15	10
Carrystown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	0	0	—	—	—	56	6	0
Cavan	48	11	1	5	10	11	—	—	—	28	1	0	—	—	—	186	10	6
Dungannon	182	16	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	145	8	1	25	18	0	19	1	4
Enniskillen	102	0	4	130	13	1	1,430	0	0	3	13	0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fethard	—	—	—	38	18	11	—	—	—	NIL	—	—	135	5	6	—	—	—
Castlegarhagh	—	—	—	50	7	5	—	—	—	Applied to the Poor in 1840, & 1841 Total	—	—	43	5	0	—	—	—
Lurgan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	503	5	7	194	15	4	1,450	0	0	—	—	—	4	4	—	264	13	8